

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The Regional Library System officially serves Williamsburg and James City County residents as a result of a regional contract implemented in 1977. Two library buildings, in downtown Williamsburg and Norge, comprise the Regional Library System.

In addition to an extensive collection of hardbound and paperback books, the Library circulates musical and instructional audiotapes and books on tape for adults and children. There are very special collections for adults who are just acquiring reading skills (ABE) and for those to whom English is a second language (ESL). The video collection, on VHS only, contains feature films for adults and children as well as instructional and cultural tapes. A librarian is on duty at all times to assist with reference, research, and information services including interlibrary loans. The book van delivers home service to outlying communities of the County, to the jail, and to nursing homes and the homebound. The Children's Department conducts story hours each week, many worthwhile programs and classes throughout the year and maintains a special Dial-A-Story by phone. The downtown Arts Center offers a concert series, a free weekly film series, several art exhibits and a variety of events. The 268-seat theater, two meeting rooms, and lobby gallery are available for rental to the general public.

BUDGET SUMMARY

		<u>FY 02 Budget</u>	<u>FY 03 Adopted</u>	<u>FY 04 Adopted</u>
Regional Library System & Arts Center	\$	<u>3,181,673</u>	\$ <u>3,539,586</u>	\$ <u>3,705,796</u>
<u>Total Regional Library System Budget:</u>				
		<u>FY 02 Budget</u>	<u>FY 03 Adopted</u>	<u>FY 04 Adopted</u>
County	\$	3,181,673	\$ 3,539,586	\$ 3,705,796
City		679,581	713,702	747,175
Other		854,175	820,505	820,504
Total	\$	<u>4,715,429</u>	\$ <u>5,073,793</u>	\$ <u>5,273,475</u>

BUDGET COMMENTS

The proposed funding for the Regional Library System provides for the operation of both the Williamsburg and Norge branches. Beginning in FY 2000, the contract between the City and the County for library services changed. A key provision in the revised contract brought library employees under the County's personnel and pay plans.

The County contribution to the Library is \$3,539,586. This amount fully funds the Library's request, allowing for adjustments to the Library's compensation plan, the expected increase in health insurance rates, an overall merit increase of 3.5 percent and additional operating funds.

The City/County percentage is calculated on the basis of FY 2001 circulation, and results in the following funding percentages: City – 16.78 percent; County – 83.22 percent.